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constructed, will most likely forever remain unknown. Some suppose them the strong-holds of Spanish pirates, which I think is altogether unlikely. We shall hope to make some further exploration, and then shall be happy to communicate any information."

The same letter states that the language of Ascension differs from all others spoken in that part of the Pacific.

E. E. S.

VIII. OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE UNITED STATES EXPEDITION TO THE DEAD SEA.

"The official Report of the United States Expedition to explore the Dead Sea and the River Jordan, was published in part by order of the United States Senate, but the manner in which the work was executed was so little creditable, either to the enterprising officers who had charge of it, or to the Government under whose authority it was undertaken, that the late Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Graham, authorized its publication by Lieut. M. F. Maury, Superintendent of the National Observatory, in a more appropriate style. The execution of the work was entrusted to Messrs. John Murphy & Co., of this city, who have recently issued it in a very neat quarto volume, handsomely bound and gilt. The Report, as published by the Senate, consisted only of the narrative portion of the Commander of the Expedition, Lieut. W. F. Lynch; but the geological portion was not included in it, as it was not then finished. The volume, as published by Messrs. Murphy & Co., contains the large and comprehensive map of the Dead Sea and the River Jordan, with the surrounding country, constructed from the joint labors of Lieutenants Lynch and Dale, and Passed Midshipman Aulick, as well as numerous plates of fossil remains found during the geological explorations."—*Baltimore American*.

The geological part of this Report is by our associate Dr. Henry J. Anderson.

IX. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL INTELLIGENCE.

I. AFRICA.

1. *Philology*.

La Toison d'or de la langue Phénicienne ; collection d'inscriptions puniques trouvées sur les ruines de Carthage et sur divers points de la régence de Tunis, avec la transcription en caractères hébreux et la traduction en Latin et en Français, par l'Abbé Bourgade, aumônier de la chapelle de Saint-Louis, à Carthage, missionnaire apostolique, chanoine honoraire d'Alger, etc. Paris : 1852.

Entzifferung der neupunischen Inschriften, von Heinrich Ewald. Göttingen : 1852.